

REPUBLIC OPENING AT CRESCENT CITY

Floral King Wins Inaugural Handicap Before Largest Crowd Ever Gathered at Track.

FAVORITES SWEEP THE CARD.

Gas Heidorn Defeats Lady Free Knight by Half Length in a Drive—Twenty-Five Books Out In.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 24.—Perfect weather, a good crowd and apparently a greater interest in the sport than was known here all contributed to what was perhaps the most brilliant opening of a racing season in the history of the local track. The crowd was not only greater than any which have marked the opening day in past years, but was of a better class.

The end of the stand reserved for members of the Louisiana Jockey Club was filled to its capacity, while the infield sheltered quite a throng, who came in carriages and decided to watch the races from the points of vantage thereby furnished.

It was an opening which was especially gratifying to the management as it seemed to show a greater popularity for the track than has been its portion at any time since it was opened. Starter Fitzgerald, too, seemed imbued with the spirit of the occasion, and his work was well nigh perfect. His starts were effected promptly, and the fields were sent away in almost perfect alignment in each case.

TWENTY-THREE BOOKS.

In the ring the showing was the best on record, though hardly up to the expert estimates. Twenty-five books were expected to be put out after looking over the ground, but twenty-three decided to take a chance.

It was a great day for favorites, the whole six races falling to public choices. Prices as a rule were not very high. The card's feature was the inaugural handicap at six furlongs. Floral King was the choice, and was almost 2 to 1 to better against him. That those who played him had sound judgment was proved by the fact that he won the race almost immediately after the barrier was released. He joined issues with Rosebush, which was the first to leave the barrier. These two ran together until rounding for home, where the Gardner cut went to the front like a flash, and had things his own way thereafter.

Rosebush, tired out from the hard early pace, was hard pressed at the end by Ram's Horn, which ran a surprisingly good race. Cut out in the midst of a brilliant run, he was crowded back, and then forced to go around, but at that, he was only beaten a neck for the place.

EASY.

Most of the races resulted in easy victories for the winners. The best-oughted field was that between Gas Heidorn and May, in the second race, 4 to 5. Presently, Heidorn was outwitted by May, and had trouble finding their way through, but when it came to the stretch run they went to the front, and Heidorn getting the verdict by a half length.

Forehand and Dan McKenna, coupled in the Bennett race, were favored for the opening race. Forehand had little trouble bringing the money home. Dan McKenna showed a poor race and was never in the hunt.

Baldy May, too, romped over her field in the second race, being only a neck closer to give her an argument at any part.

Granger K. took the fifth still more easily. He had six lengths to spare at the finish over Alladin, who came very fast at the end and beat Autolight a neck for the place.

Prince Salm Salm, after a very stormy race, won the sixth, beating the stretch and went to the front, winning easily by two lengths.

RESULTS.

First race, one mile and seventy yards—Forehand, 10 furlongs, 2 to 1. Time, 1:42.2. Second race, 4 to 5. Presently, Heidorn was outwitted by May, and had trouble finding their way through, but when it came to the stretch run they went to the front, and Heidorn getting the verdict by a half length.

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ESTIMATES EXCEED ACTUAL FIGURES

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BEATS CHICAGO \$4,000,000.

Charles M. Reeves's Report Shows That He Traveled About 100,000 Miles in Exploiting Wonders of Fair.

ALFREDO DE ORO BEAT HUESTON

Famous Cuban Player Took First Game of Championship Match From the Local Man.

Alfredo de Oro of New York, champion of the world, defeated Thomas Hueston of St. Louis by a score of 215 to 190 in the first of their match at the Broadway last night.

De Oro was in great form and his position playing was the best seen at the Broadway. Hueston played a first-class game, but he seemed to be nervous at critical stages, and did not have the proper control of his cue ball.

The match was a real contest. Hueston laid down on easy shots that would have netted him the entire frame each time.

De Oro's playing proves that he is one of the greatest pool players. He picked out combination after combination and fell down on only three.

He was also good on long shots and did not miss many that he went after.

Hueston played the more spectacular game at times, but his lack of steadiness cost him the game. The St. Louis boy had the better of the champion on breaking the ivory, but he seemed to be unable to get to the bunch with the same precision, and he saved himself up to improve, when he appeared to have a clear field.

De Oro won the bank and broke the pyramid. He left one open and Hueston made it, but he fell down on the next shot, and De Oro made 14. The Cuban made a high break of 12 on one stage, had a score of 45 to 2 in his favor.

Toward the 30 mark Hueston began to improve, and he scored only 15 points in the last frame.

At this point De Oro began to show his real championship. He made only 15 points in the last frame.